

Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command

Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center

2009 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

*In Our Desert Environment,
Water is Everyone's Responsibility*



Continuing Our Commitment

MAGTFTC MCAGCC is proud to once again present our Consumer Confidence Report. This edition covers all testing completed from January 1 through December 31, 2008. We are pleased to report that our compliance with all state and federal drinking water laws and standards remains exemplary.

As in the past, we are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water to all residents aboard MAGTFTC MCAGCC. We will remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users.

Under the "Consumer Confidence Rule" of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), community water systems are required to report water quality information to the consuming public annually.

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua potable. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

This report was compiled by the MAGTFTC MCAGCC Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs (NREA) Water Resources Office. For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please contact Chris Elliott, Water Resources Manager, at (760)-830-7883 or e-mail chris.elliott@usmc.mil.

Information About Drinking Water

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly

and infants may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. MCAGCC is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When water has been sitting in your plumbing for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

No Drugs Down the Drain

Pharmaceutical waste remains a threat to water supplies. One way to reduce this threat is to dispose of all over-the-counter drugs and prescriptions properly. DO NOT FLUSH DRUGS DOWN THE DRAIN.

Old medicine can be taken to the San Bernardino County Community Household Waste Collection Center located at 62499 29 Palms Highway, Joshua Tree. It is open the third Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information on proper disposal of unwanted medicines, visit <http://www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org>.



Because MAGTFTC MCAGCC is committed to the sustainment and protection of the environment, this report is printed on 30% recycled paper to help reduce waste and minimize impact on the environment while meeting the mission of the Marine Corps.

Did You Know?

There is the same amount of water on the planet today that there was from the very start of this planet's existence. So you ask, "why the need to conserve water?" Although we are surrounded by water, most is not drinkable without a significant level of treatment. In fact, only 3% of the world's water is fresh water and, of that, 2/3 is stored in icecaps and glaciers. That leaves only 1% of the world's water available for drinking.

Around The House

The large amount of soaps, detergents, and cleaners entering the sewer system can exert a toxic effect on the microbes responsible for treating human waste and can, in effect, "wipe out" the biological processes at work in the sewage treatment plants. **Please...**

DO...

Use only the amount of cleaning products necessary for the job.

DO...

Use environmentally friendly cleaners intended for household cleaning.



Water conservation measures are an important first step in protecting our water supply. Such measures not only save the supply of our source water but can also

save you money by reducing your water bill. Through conservation and water reduction we can ensure water quality is maintained and extend available water resources for future generations. There are several ways everyone can conserve water.

- When brushing your teeth, do not leave the water running.
- Use low-flow showerheads and faucet aerators to reduce water use while maintaining flow.
- Repair drips and leaks to save up to 3,280 gallons of water a year.
- Use a shutoff nozzle on your hose to prevent water running constantly.

Population growth of our planet means more people who need water for everyday use, which in turn means less water for everyone and a greater strain on technology to purify other sources of water. Working to protect our precious water supplies is critical.

Water reduction/conservation is everyone's responsibility.

Investing in our future

Challenges facing MAGTFTC MCAGCC Utilities are similar to those faced by other utilities in the area: water supply, aging infrastructure, and population growth. MAGTFTC MCAGCC continues to work on improving the quality of the water system. Several contracts were issued and millions of dollars were spent on repairing and upgrading the potable water system.

Today, a system consisting of 11 potable water wells and 8 reservoirs with a storage capacity of 11 million gallons serve the military and civilian workforce of MCAGCC through a series of pipelines that extend over 84.2 miles of service area.



Where Does My Water Come From?

All domestic water supplied to MAGTFTC MCAGCC is groundwater from the Surprise Springs subaquifer of the Twentynine Palms Groundwater Basin. This water is extracted by 11 production wells at a depth of between 500 and 700 feet located in a protected area of the Sand Hill Training Area.

This water has consistently been of such high quality in nature that it routinely meets or exceeds all EPA and California Department of Public Health Services primary and secondary drinking water standards without any treatment required (other than basic disinfection) before distribution. Basic disinfection is



required by the California Department of Health Services as a safeguard against possible microbial contamination due to repairs or maintenance of the system.

DO NOT...

Use excessive amounts of soap, detergents, and cleaners.

DO NOT...

Dump or dispose of excess or unused cleaners or detergents in a sink, tub, or toilet.

DO NOT...

Use harsh detergents, such as acid-based cleaners.

Substance (Unit of Measure)	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	MCAGCC Water	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source
Source Wells Primary Drinking Water Standard							
Aluminum (mg/L)	1	0.2	0.05	ND-< 0.05	2009	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Antimony (mg/L)	0.006	0.006	0.006	ND-<0.006	2009	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Arsenic (mg/L)	0.01	0.01	0.0036	0.0020-0.0093	2009	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Barium (mg/L)	1	1	0.1	ND-< 0.1	2009	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Beryllium (mg/L)	0.004	0.004	0.001	ND-< 0.001	2009	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Cadmium (mg/L)	0.005	0.005	0.001	ND-< 0.001	2009	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Chromium (mg/L)	0.05	0.05	0.0113	0.0038-0.018	2009	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Cyanide (mg/L)	0.15	0.15	0.1	ND-<0.1	2009	No	Wastewater Discharges or Industrial Emissions
Fluoride (mg/L)	2	2	0.53	0.3-0.7	2009	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Iron (mg/L)	0.03	0.03	0.212	0.01-1.3	2009	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Mercury (mg/L)	0.002	0.002	0.001	ND-0.001	2009	No	Wastewater Discharges or Industrial Emissions
Methyl-tert-butylether (mg/L)	0.013	0.013	0.003	ND-0.003	2009	No	Leaking Underground Storage
Nitrate (NO3) (mg/L)	45	45	4	2.3-7.0	2009	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Nitrite (NO2) (mg/L)	10	10	0.1	ND-0.1	2009	No	Natural Deposits or Agricultural Runoff
Nickel (mg/L)	0.1	0.1	0.01	ND-0.01	2009	No	Discharges from Industry
Perchlorate (mg/L)	0.006	NA	0.004	ND-0.004	2009	No	May be Found Naturally or Manufactured for Industrial Use
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	5	5	0.121	ND-0.253	2009	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Total Coliform Bacteria	1	0	0	ND-1	2009	No	Naturally Present in the Environment
Source Wells Secondary Drinking Water Standard							
Chloride (mg/L)	250	250	19.09	8.9-30	2009	No	Erosion of Natural deposits
Color (CU)	15	15	3	<3-3	2009	No	Erosion of Natural deposits
Manganese (mg/L)	0.5	0.05	0.02	ND-0.02	2009	No	Erosion of Natural deposits
Sulfate (mg/L)	500	250	29.3	18-41	2009	No	Naturally Present in the Environment
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	1000	500	176	140-230	2009	No	Erosion of Natural deposits
Zinc (mg/L)	5	NA	0.05	ND-0.05	2009	No	Naturally Present in the Environment
Distribution System							
Copper 90th Percentile	1300	170	28	0.37-75	2009	No	Plumbing Corrosion
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids) (mg/L)	0.06	NA	0.005	ND-0.005	2009	No	By-product of System Chlorination
Lead 90th Percentile	15	2	8.6	ND-610	2009	No	Plumbing Corrosion
THHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (mg/L)	0.08	NA	0.0032	0.0011-0.0053	2009	No	By-product of System Chlorination
Total Coliform Bacteria	1	0	0	ND-1	2009	No	Naturally Present in the Environment

Total

Coliform Bacteria: Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as indicators that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present.

Table Definitions

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

Unit: Standard unit of measurement for this constituent

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity

NA: Not applicable

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter)

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level)

The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs (SMCLs) are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal)

The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. EPA.

water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California EPA.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter)

PHG (Public Health Goal): The level of a contaminant in drinking

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